

405th AEW Scoreboard

Current as of March 27

AWACS
1,055 combat sorties
14,477 hours of station
coverage

Tankers
(Since Mar 7)
124 combat sorties

86.6 percent Mission
Capable rate

B-ONEs
54 Operation Iraqi Freedom
combat sorties flown
1.1 million pounds
of munitions dropped
81 percent Mission Capable
Rate

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AWACS keep flying despite challenges

By Tech. Sgt. Eric Grill
405th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

About 45 people, deployed here from Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., work together to make sure the E-3 Sentry, commonly known as the Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft, or AWACS, is ready to launch within an hour if needed too.

That is no small task, according to the man in charge of the maintenance of the two AWACS aircraft here.

Capt. James Hall, 405th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, is the person responsible for the upkeep of not only the AWACS, but also the KC-135 Stratotankers and the B-1B Lancers here. One of the ways he said to maintain the aircraft is to make sure that his people are taken care of. This includes making sure they have the right equipment to per-

form the job, as well as the right parts.

"Getting parts can be a real challenge," Hall said. "In the past we'd receive parts through supply channels once a week. With the increased operations tempo, that wasn't enough. In February alone, twenty-seven percent of the time we could not fly because we needed parts."

He said the supplies were held up at Dover AFB, Del., because of severe weather on the east coast of the United States. Even so, the team here made sure the AWACS has not missed a mission. Dover has also increased the number of

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A crew chief for the AWACS talks to the aircrew on board the aircraft prior to the aircraft taking off recently. (Photo courtesy of the 405th Communication Squadron)

Air Force loses role model, friend

By Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force
Gerald R. Murray

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- The passing of former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Tom Barnes is a tremendous loss to his family, to our Air Force and the nation.

Historically, he will be remembered as the first African-American Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, but a closer look at his life reveals a man with a deep passion for his family, his service, and the men and women of the enlisted force.

He grew up in our Air Force at a time when racial issues were at their height, and throughout his career, senior leaders turned to him to diffuse tense situations. His ability to communicate with people, coupled with his experience as an NCO and as an African-American, gave him the unique ability to understand the issues and work toward solutions.

As a technical expert in his field of hydraulics and later as a flight engineer, he gained the respect and admiration of peers, subordinates and superiors, and became the person people went to for answers.

His experience in racial relations, technical expertise and experience in both the Korean War and Vietnam clearly made him the right



Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Tom Barnes

person to become the fourth chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

His leadership paved the way for the enlisted force of the mid-'70s to begin its rise above many challenges -- post-Vietnam issues, racial tensions, low standards, and drug and alcohol abuse.

Following his retirement, he continued to lead and mentor, through many speaking engagements and visits with our airmen.

The Air Force is better today because of Chief Barnes' dedicated service. His passion, leadership and friendship will be greatly missed.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"In time of war, more lives are lost to accidents and disease than to enemy action. Engaging in combat is no excuse to act stupid. Don't let adrenaline, testosterone, a false sense of urgency, or dreams of glory rob you of your common sense. Do your job like you were trained to do and you will inflict maximum damage on the enemy and assure your own safe return to those who love and admire you."

(Author unknown)

B-ONEs crews describe bombing missions

by Master Sgt. Scott Elliott

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON -- B-1B Lancers, combining the latest in technology with old-fashioned elbow grease, are taking the air war of Operation Iraqi Freedom to regime and military targets in every inch of that country.

Four members of the 405th Air Expeditionary Wing described their mission to Pentagon reporters in a March 25 teleconference. The 405th is currently deployed to an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia.

"The B-1 is so flexible because of its (long range) and ability to carry more munitions than any aircraft (except the B-2 Spirit, armed with cluster bombs)," said

Col. Peter Kippie, 405th AEW vice commander. "We have a very dynamic capability to strike across the area of operations.

"There is no target within Iraq that is not at risk when we take off," he said.

The Lancers, Kippie said, are taking off at unprecedented rates, thanks to the efforts of the unit's maintenance corps.

"We had broken airplanes on the first night, but they were repaired in an incredibly short time," he said. "We got every airplane airborne, over target and striking the targets when they should have been.

"Not a single B-1 was turned away either because of maintenance, threats or enemy defenses," Kippie said.

According to Capt. Ty Neuman, a Lancer weapons systems officer, the B-1 crews are challenged on every mission by Iraqi defense forces.

"The threat is certainly out there, and on

any given mission we take every precaution and use all our tactics to minimize the threat to our aircraft as we go on strikes inside Baghdad," Neuman said.

One highly publicized Iraqi countermeasure was the purchase of "GPS jammers," which were designed to thwart America's use of precision-guided munitions. In theory, by overriding global positioning satellite signals, the "smart" weapons could be confused into missing their targets.

"If the Iraqis are spending money to buy this stuff, they're wasting their cash," said Col. James Kowalski, 405th AEW commander.

According to Kowalski, the B-1s themselves can not be jammed, so the bombs will hit their targets one way or the other.

"The weapon has an inertial navigation system, so even if it never gets a lock (on the GPS signal), it's going to land within about 40 feet from the target," he said.

B-1s, which can carry 24 2,000-pound bombs, typically take off with a plan to strike a number of targets and then wait for targets of opportunity to appear.

"Most of the time we go up there, hit some targets and find a tanker," Kowalski said. "While we're on the tanker, we'll get additional targets and then go strike again."

Cutting-edge technology is keeping Combined Air Operations Center war planners connected with the B-1s, ensuring rapid placement of their weapons.

"Sometimes the front moves so fast we're getting additional targets (after) we get into

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Iraqi Women Under Saddam's Regime: A Population Silenced

Courtesy of the U.S. State Department

Situation for Women in Saddam's Iraq
In 1979, immediately upon coming to power, Saddam Hussein silenced all political opposition in Iraq and converted his one-party state into a cult of personality.

Since then, his regime has systematically executed, tortured, imprisoned, raped, terrorized, and repressed the Iraqi people. Iraq is a nation rich in culture, with a long history of intellectual and scientific achievement, especially among its women.

However, Saddam Hussein's brutal regime has silenced the voices of Iraq's women, along with its men, through violence and intimidation.

In Iraq under Saddam, if you are a woman, you could face:

■ **Beheading.** Under the pretext of fighting prostitution, units of "Fedayeen Saddam," the paramilitary organization led by Uday Hussein, Saddam's eldest son, have beheaded in public more than 200 women throughout the country, dumping their severed heads at their families' doorsteps. Many families have been required to display the victim's head on their outside fences for several days;

These barbaric acts were carried out in the total absence of any proper judicial procedures and many of the victims were not engaged in prostitution, but were targeted for political reasons. For example, Najat Mohammad Haydar, an obstetrician in Baghdad, was beheaded after criticizing the corruption within health services. (Amnesty International Report, Iraq: Systematic Torture of Political Prisoners, August 2001; Iraqi Women's League in Damascus, Syria);

■ **Rape.** The Iraqi Government uses rape and sexual assault of women to achieve the following goals: to extract information and forced confessions from detained family members; to intimidate Iraqi oppositionists by sending videotapes showing the rape of female family members; and to blackmail Iraqi men into future cooperation with

the regime. Some Iraqi authorities even carry personnel cards identifying their official "activity" as the "violation of women's honor." (U.S. Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices-2001, March 2002; Iraq Research and Documentation Project, Harvard University);

■ **Torture.** The Iraqi Government routinely tortures and kills female dissidents and the female relatives of Iraqi oppositionists and defectors. Victims include Safiyah Hassan, the mother of two Iraqi defectors, who was killed after publicly criticizing the Iraqi Government for killing her sons after their return to Iraq. Women in Saddam's jails are subjected to the following forms of torture: brutal beatings, systematic rape, electrical shocks, and branding. (U.S. Department of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices-2001, March 2002; U.S. Department of State, Iraq: A Population Silenced, December 2002); and

■ **Murder.** In 1990, Saddam Hussein introduced Article 111 into the Iraqi Penal Code in a calculated effort to strengthen tribal support for his regime. This law exempts men who kill their female relatives in defense of their family's honor from prosecution and punishment. The UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women reported that more than 4,000 women have been victims of so-called "honor killings" since Article 111 went into effect. (UN Commission on Human Rights, Report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, January 2002)

U.S. Support for Iraqi Women

All people deserve to live in freedom, including the men and women of Iraq. On March 6, 2003, a group of free Iraqi women met with Vice President Dick Cheney, National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky, and Ambassador at Large

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President Bush authorizes two new medals

*Courtesy of the
Department of Defense*

A presidential executive order signed recently authorizes the Department of Defense to create two new military medals for service in the Global War on Terrorism.

The GWOT Expeditionary Medal will recognize service-members who participate in an expedition to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. This is limited to those who deploy as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The GWOT Service Medal will recognize service in military operations to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. This is limited to Operation Noble Eagle and to those servicemembers who provide support to Operation Enduring Freedom from outside the area of eligibility designated for the GWOT Expeditionary Medal.

The medals were recommended by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld "in response to our Nation's global efforts to suppress terrorism, and the significant contributions members of the Armed Forces bring to bear on the long-term resolution of this threat."

Specific eligibility for these medals will be established by DoD award policy. The combatant commander



A presidential executive order signed recently authorizes the Department of Defense to create two new military medals, the War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (Above) and the War on Terrorism Service Medal (Below), for service in the Global War on Terrorism. (Courtesy photos)



has the authority to award the medals for approved operations to units and personnel deployed within his or her theater. Each service department will prescribe the appropriate regulations for processing and wearing of the medals.

Members of the U.S. armed forces and Coast Guard are eligible for the medals to include Reserve and National Guard activated to support

approved operations. Civilians, foreign nationals and foreign military are not eligible. It will take up to 12 months to produce and stock the medal in department supply systems.

Future authorization for these medals will be considered and approved by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff if the war on terrorism expands.

AWACS keep flying despite challenges

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supply flights leaving for the AOR.

Hall said even with the challenges, the AWACS maintenance team has a pretty impressive

record with a more than 99 percent flying sched-

ule effectiveness rate and a 98 percent mission effectiveness rate, best of the three AWACS operating sites in the AOR. The team also has the lowest abort rate caused by maintenance related problems at about three percent.

"This shows you that the people doing their jobs are focused and motivated," Hall said. "If they weren't, our rates wouldn't be so impressive."

For Tech. Sgt. George Lull, an AWACS radar systems craftsman and a Reservist called up to active duty to fight the global war on terrorism, the weather is a challenge to performing his job.

The defining modification of the Boeing 707 aircraft is the 6-foot thick radar dome that sits on top of the airframe. The radar dome houses a radar subsystem that permits surveillance from the Earth's surface up into the stratosphere, over land or water. The radar has a range of more than 250 miles for low-flying targets and can detect, identify and track enemy and friendly low-flying aircraft by eliminating ground clutter returns that confuse other radar systems.

High winds can prevent Lull from going into the radar dome, which houses the radar, he said.

Normal maintenance on the radar system can take up to 12 hours. If he's prevented from



About 45 people are deployed here to maintain the E-3 Sentry, commonly referred to as the AWACS, or Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft, shown above. (U.S. Air Force photo)

entering the radar dome, Lull said it delays the maintenance schedule.

The extreme temperatures of desert operations also pose challenges, he said.

"When I have to hook up an air conditioning unit to the dome, it adds two hours to

the maintenance schedule just to cool it off," Lull said. To compensate for the heat, dome maintenance is often performed at night.

As a crew chief for the AWACS, Senior Airman Jeremy Timmerman is responsible for performing any maintenance on the airframe. This includes pre- and post-flight inspections, and refueling the aircraft. He's been with the AWACS since August of 2002. Prior to that he was a crew chief on the KC-135.

"A crew chief for a normal aircraft is a generalist in nature," Timmerman said. "But with the AWACS there are a lot more systems and equipment to learn."

Hall said it takes every one of the 45 people here working together, doing different jobs to put one AWACS in the air. "It's a very good team environment," he said.

Lull and Timmerman both said they agree.

"Because we're in a lean-manning situation, we have people here doing their primary jobs and assisting in other people's jobs to make sure the aircraft flies," Lull said.

The nature of the AWACS business is also a challenge.

On a normal rotational schedule, the AWACS

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Three airmen voice opinions on MTV

By Tech. Sgt. Eric M. Grill

405th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

Three airmen supporting war operations here were recently featured on MTV Diaries, a reality series that airs weekly on the international music TV station.

Senior Airman Tia Schroeder, a still photographer from the 405th Communications Squadron and Airman 1st Class Matt Pawlusik, a third country national escort here, did phone interviews with MTV host Gideon on March 20, the night of the first U.S. missile attacks on Baghdad. Airman 1st Class Ben Hartwick, a security forces augmentee from the 405th Civil Engineer Squadron participated March 21 through e-mail.

The three airmen were asked questions



Airman 1st Class Ben Hartwick

about how they felt the war with Iraq has affected them, and what they think of all the anti-war protesters.

This isn't the first time Schroeder has participated in the MTV Diaries TV show.

In December of 2001 MTV videographers followed her around Ramstein Air Base in Germany, documenting her life there.

Asked why she participated in the series, Schroeder, deployed here from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., said that she isn't a shy person and that "this opportunity allowed me to say how I actually felt, not only to my co-workers and family, but to the American people, especially the younger people watching MTV.

"Younger people might not be aware of the real facts," she said. "This allows them to see what we are going through as young people too. I'm excited to represent the Air Force. I do that anyway by wearing the uniform, but



Senior Airman Tia Schroeder

this represents the Air Force in a very public way."

For Pawlusik, deployed from Peterson AFB, Colo., this was an opportunity of a lifetime.

"Not being in a leadership position, I saw this as an opportunity to help the Air Force be seen in a positive manner," he said. "It's not everyday that you get to talk to MTV and influence people.

This venue allows not only me, but the Air Force to let the younger generation know about Air Force and military life."

Pawlusik talked about a stigma that he said he was guilty believing that all the military is about is being a "ground-pounder," referring to being a soldier or Marine with a back-pack full of equipment, on their backs and marching everywhere carrying a rifle.

"I was fortunate enough to have two parents who were both in the military straighten me out," he said.

"But that stigma is still out there, so, I hope this will change the way people view the Air Force."

Hartwick, who was deployed here from Grandforks AFB, N.D., in

October, said that he participated in the show because he wanted to show the Air Force is a great way of life.

"Hopefully, I encourage high school graduates to join what I think is the best military service out there," he said.

The episode aired March 21 on MTV.



Airman 1st Class Matt Pawlusik

Stop-Loss affects deployed airmen

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- Even though Air Force officials have identified 99 career fields affected by Stop-Loss, all airmen currently deployed are impacted as well.

Responding to erroneous news reports and some confusion in the ranks, officials are re-emphasizing how Stop-Loss affects deployed airmen.

Stop-Loss is keeping all deployed airmen "in place" until they return from deployment, said Lt. Col. Rich Binger, chief of separations at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

"There is no 'stop movement,'" he said. "Assignment flow is not affected directly by Stop-Loss. But people deployed will not be allowed to rotate home so they can voluntarily separate or retire from the service. They'll have

to wait until their deployment is over."

For airmen returning from deployment, only those within the targeted career fields will remain in Stop-Loss status.

A waiver process is in place through local military personnel flights or deployed personnel units, officials said.

The program, effective May 2, was enacted to ensure the Air Force had enough people in needed specialties to meet current mission requirements. To ensure only people needed to meet mission requirements are affected, officials will conduct periodic reviews as necessary.

For more information about Stop-Loss, people can contact their local military personnel flight or the Air Force Personnel Center's Stop-Loss Control Center at (210) 565-2374 or DSN 665-2374.

Area 51

Movie Schedule

Sunday, March 30

The Perfect Storm (PG-13) 2pm
Infested (R) 4:10pm
The Banger Sisters (R) 6:30pm
Brown Sugar (PG-13) 8 pm
Say Nothing (R) 10:15pm

Monday, March 31

Josie and The Pussycats (PG-13) 2pm
Out of Sync (R) 4:10pm
Woman on Top (R) 6:30pm
Phantasm (R) 8:30pm
The Family Man (PG13) 10:15pm

Tuesday, April 1

The Pest (PG-13) 2pm
Caught Up (R) 4:10pm
Mr. Deeds (PG-13) 6:30pm
The Good Girl (R) 8 pm
Eyes Wide Shut (R) 10:15pm

Wednesday, April 2

Glitter (PG-13) 2pm
Last Summer in the Hamptons (R) 4:10pm
Eternal Gangstas (R) 6:30pm
The Animal (PG-13) 8 pm
Robin Williams Live (MA) 10:15pm

Thursday, April 3

Band of Brothers (NR) Marathon 4:30pm

Friday, April 5

Cheaters (R) 2 pm
Taking Back Our Town (R) 4:10pm
Girlfight (R) 6:30pm
The Ninth Gate (R) 8 pm
Barbershop (PG-13) 10:15pm

Saturday, April 6

Outrage (NR) 2pm
Fire and Ice (R) 4:10pm
An Officer and a Gentleman (R) 6:30pm
I am Sam (PG-13) 8 pm
American Pie 2 (R) 10:15pm

405th Services Squadron

"When you work, we work. When you play, we work harder!"



Dining Facility Special meal

Wednesday, April 2 -- Italian
Dinner with Cheese Manicotti,
Spaghetti and Meatballs, and
Garlic Bread

Dustbowl Recreation Schedule from March 30 to April 12

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 30 Horseback Tournament 1800 & 1900 | 31 3 On 3 Basketball 0900 & 1900 | 1 Trivia Night Music 2000-2200 Sports 1000 & 1900 | 2 Continued 1000 & 1900 | 3 Bret TED | 4 KARAOKE 2000-2300 | 5 Country Night |
| 6 Horseback Tournament 1000 & 1900 | 7 3-Set Tournament 1000 & 1800 Jockey Tournament 1200 Trivia Night Sports 2000-2200 | 8 Double Football Tournament 1000 & 1900 Trivia Night General 2000-2200 | 9 Hearts Tournament 1000 & 1900 | 10 Bret TED | 11 KARAOKE 2000- 2300 | 12 Foot. Posa. & Kick 1900 & 1800 Rave Night 2100 |

All events and times subject to change

B-ONES, F-117s strike satellite guidance jammers

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM -- Coalition airmen struck Iraqi equipment used to jam satellite guidance systems March 22 and March 25, according to Defense officials.

Coalition strikes by B-ONES and F-117s have bombed six Global Positioning System jammers Iraq was using in an attempt to disrupt the guidance system of satellite-guided munitions. The jammers had been ineffective against

Coalition bombs.

Initial battle damage assessments indicate four of the six jammers were destroyed on March 22 using satellite-guided munitions dropped from a B-1B. The Coalition re-struck two of the Iraqi jammers using other satellite-guided munitions dropped from two F-117s last evening. Battle damage assessment is still ongoing, Combined Air Operations Center officials said.

Bad to the B-ONE



A B-1B Lancer continues its mission after refueling in the skies near Iraq on March 25. The B-1 crew, assigned to 405th Air Expeditionary Wing, is flying missions from a forward-deployed air base as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Cherie A. Thurlby)

Since March 20, U.S. forces have fired more than 600 Tomahawks and dropped more than 4,300 precision-guided weapons.

- ♦ 80 percent of U.S. Air Force munitions used in the air campaign to date have been precision guided munitions. PGMs accounted for less than 10% of all munitions used during Operation Desert Storm

FIRE STATION 1 has moved from tent A-19 to a brand new building located directly south of the Gym. In addition, the non-emergency admin phone number has changed to: 468-0718. The fire chief's new number is: 468-0720. Emergency number for fire/police/medics is still 9-1-1.

Operation Iraqi Freedom Quick Fact

current as of 03/27/03

70 percent of U.S. Air Force munitions used in the air campaign to date have been precision guided munitions. The percentage dropped from 80 percent because of the shift to close air support.

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Contents of the Tent City Times are not necessarily the official view or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

B-ONEs crews describe bombing missions

Continued from page 3

get into Iraq,” Kowalski said. “We’re using satellites to transmit targeting data -- basically, e-mails from the CAOC that update us with time-sensitive targets.

“We have all the players linked up now,” Kowalski said. “It allows us to react much more quickly to changes on the battlefield and to what we detect via intelligence.”

With battle plans changing so quickly, air-

crews don’t have much time to think about what they’re doing, said B-1 pilot Maj. Jeff Paterson.

“It all falls back on training,” he said. “You spend years and years training to go to war, training to be the best at what you do. Once you take off and the wheels are in the gear well, you don’t really dwell on it a lot. You just get the job done.” (Courtesy of Air Force News Agency)

Iraqi Women Under Saddam’s Regime

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for a Free Iraq, Zalmay Khalilzad.

The women shared their experiences under Saddam’s reign of terror. As this group made clear, Iraqi women are eager to participate in the process of building a peaceful, democra-

tic post-Saddam society.

They want their society to once again be based on progressive Iraqi traditions and values.

They believe in the universal principles of human rights. As in Afghanistan, the United

States Government is prepared to help Iraqis with the priorities and projects that they identify as the best way to achieve their goals. We will continue to meet with Iraqi women and exchange ideas about their path forward.

Maintainers keep AWACS flying despite challenges

Continued from page 6

ground maintenance personnel are deployed for 45-days, working seven days a week, 12-hour shifts around the clock, Timmerman said. After those 45-days they’re sent back to Tinker. They’re then sent out again anywhere from 90 to 135 days later for another 45-day rotation.

Hall said that compared to rotations for other airframes may not seem like much, but the continuous 45-day rotations to three operating locations takes a toll on aircraft and people, and demonstrates the inherent differences and difficulties of the limited quantity of AWACS.

“The other aircraft and their people, for the most part, rotate on an Air and Space Expeditionary Force schedule where they deploy once every 15 months for 90 days,” Hall said. “The AWACS fleet doesn’t fit well into that construct. Our people can be gone for an average of 90

to 135 days per year.”

The goal is to have his people deploy for 45 days every six months, Hall said, but unfortunately he acknowledged it doesn’t always work that way. This is especially true with everyone in the AOR frozen in place because of the initiation of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

One thing that does make life easier on the maintainers is the outstanding cooperation between the operators of the aircraft and the maintainers, Hall said.

“It’s paramount that we have an open dialog with the aircraft operators to find out what is wrong with the aircraft,” Hall said. “Without the dialog, we’d spend a lot more time troubleshooting the aircraft for problems, instead of fixing what is wrong with the aircraft. It saves us a lot of time.”

“It’s definitely a team effort that allows the aircraft to perform its critical mission,” he said.